

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This case has been carefully reviewed and analyzed in view of the Official Action dated 17 April 2006. Responsive to the rejections made in the Official Action, Claims 1-5, 14 and 16 have been amended to clarify the combination of elements which form the invention of the subject Patent Application and/or the language thereof.

Additionally, Claims 6-13 and 15 have been canceled by this Amendment.

In the Official Action, the Examiner has rejected Claims 1-10 and 14-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Chen, et al., U.S. Patent 6,061,261, in view of Yang, U.S. Patent 6,733,329.

Before discussing the prior art relied upon by the Examiner, it is believed beneficial to first briefly review the structure of the invention of the subject Patent Application, as now claimed. The invention of the subject Patent Application is directed to a portable universal serial bus voltage transformer. The device includes a main body and a transformer circuit unit disposed in the main body for converting power from an AC source to DC voltage required for USB devices. The transformer circuit unit includes a circuit board disposed within the main body, a transformer mounted to the circuit board, and a plug electrically coupled to an input of the transformer and extending from the circuit board to pass through corresponding openings in the main body for selective coupling with an outlet receptacle defining the AC source. Portable universal serial bus voltage

transformer further includes a plurality of USB connectors electrically connected to the output of the transformer circuit unit for passage of the DC voltage provided by the transformer circuit unit therethrough. A plurality of USB connectors are operable to simultaneously connect a plurality of devices to the DC voltage output from the transformer circuit unit. The plurality of connectors includes at least one A-type USB connector, at least one B-type USB connector, and at least one mini-type USB connector.

In contradistinction, the Chen, et al. reference is directed to a wall outlet with a DC output. The reference discloses a permanently installed AC-DC voltage conversion circuit disposed in an outlet-receptacle type structure. Further, where multiple outlet connectors are disclosed, such as in Figs. 12a and 12b, each of the connectors provides a different DC voltage, the transformer of the device having multiple secondary windings, each providing a different output voltage.

Nowhere does Chen et al. disclose or suggest a portable universal serial bus voltage transformer which converts power from an AC source to a DC voltage required for USB devices, as well as a transformer circuit unit which includes a circuit board disposed within the main body, a transformer mounted to the circuit board, and a plug electrically coupled to an input of the transformer and extending from the circuit board to pass through corresponding openings in the main body for selective coupling with an outlet receptacle defining an AC source, as now claimed. Still further, the reference fails to disclose or suggest a plurality of USB

connectors being electrically connected to the transformer circuit unit for passage of the DC voltage provided by the transformer circuit unit therethrough, and neither discloses nor suggests an arrangement where the plurality of USB connectors are operable to simultaneously connect a plurality of devices to the DC voltage output from the transformer circuit unit, as provided by the invention of the subject Patent Application and now claimed.

It is believed that the combination of Chen et al. and Yang is improper. The Chen, et al. reference is directed to AC-DC voltage conversion device and Yang is related to a portable storage device. One skilled in the art of power conversion devices would not look to memory devices for ideas on modifying AC-DC voltage conversion systems. Thus, it is believed that the Examiner's combination of Chen, et al. with Yang is based on the improper use of "hindsight," using Applicant's own disclosure as a basis for such combination. There is no disclosure in either Yang or Chen, et al. which would suggest looking to the other reference for elements which could be combined therewith.

Even if Yang is properly combinable with Chen, et al., such still fails to make obvious the invention of the subject Patent Application, as the Yang reference does not overcome the deficiencies of Chen, et al. The Yang reference is directed to a USB flash drive with a plurality of inter connectors where one is selectively coupled to the flash drive for connection to a particular type of USB mating connector. It is respectfully submitted that the flash drive of Yang is a

USB power consumer, and has nothing to do with supplying voltage to a plurality of USB devices. The storage device 2 has a single connector 22 to which one of a plurality of inter connectors 3 is coupled, each inter connector having one USB type connector coupled thereto, one inter connector device being for the A-type USB interface, another for the B-type USB interface, and another being a mini-type USB interface connector.

Like Chen, et al., Yang fails to disclose or suggest a portable universal serial bus voltage transformer which converts power from an AC source to a DC voltage required for USB devices, as now claimed. Further, the reference neither discloses nor suggests a transformer circuit unit which includes a circuit board disposed within the main body, a transformer mounted to the circuit board, and a plug electrically coupled to an input of the transformer and extending from the circuit board to pass through corresponding openings in the main body for selective coupling with an outlet receptacle defining an AC source, as now claimed. Further, the reference fails to disclose or suggest a plurality of USB connectors electrically connected to the transformer circuit unit for passage of the DC voltage provided by the transformer circuit unit therethrough, and wherein the plurality of USB connectors are operable to simultaneously connect a plurality of devices to the DC voltage output from the transformer circuit unit, as now claimed. Still further, while the Yang reference discloses each of a A-type USB connector, a B-type USB connector, and a mini-type USB connector, one of those

connectors is selectively coupled to a mating connector. Whereas in the invention of the subject Patent Application, one each of each of those three types of connectors are all simultaneously connected to the output of the transformer circuit unit for providing simultaneous power to USB devices connected thereto.

As neither Chen, et al. nor Yang disclose or suggest the concatenation of elements which form the invention of the subject Patent Application, they, in combination, cannot make obvious the invention of the subject Patent Application, as now claimed. Therefore, it is now believed that the subject Patent Application has been placed in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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